



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	01-07-02	Interpretation #	02-005
Topic	Classification of Private School Buildings		
Code Section(s)	§305.1, California Building Code (1998 ed)		
Requested by	Dirk Mattern Santa Clara County Fire Department 14700 Winchester Blvd Los Gatos, CA 95032-1818		

What is the correct occupancy classification for a private school building used for educational purposes for children through the 12th grade for fewer than 12 hours per week or four hours in any one day?

Even though the time duration outlined in §305 may not correspond exactly, all buildings must be classified into the occupancy they most nearly resemble. Therefore, depending upon the occupant load, the correct classification is Group E, Division 1 or Group E, Division 2.